

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, January 4, 1990

Following an invocation by James G. Adams, Jr. and dinner at the Log House Restaurant the meeting was called to order by President Westerfield at 7:29 p.m. The roll call revealed thirty members present plus one guest. The guest of Robert C. Baker was Mr. Andrea Celari, an exchange student from Italy. Requests for excused absences were presented by William T. Turner, Marshall Butler, Peter C. Macdonald, Marvin D. Denison, William M. Rowlett, Robert C. Baker, Hal King, Mike G. Herndon, and George W. Engler, with all of these requests being approved.

Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved. The Secretary then read a letter from Martin Standard relating to his illness, necessitating the exchange with Wendell H. Rorie relative to the program for this date. A letter was also read from Robert C. Cayce expressing his regrets at not being able to accept membership into the Society and a letter from William A. Bell was read, indicating his acceptance of membership into the Society. The Membership Committee, chaired by Mike G. Herndon, then placed before the members the nomination of one prospect to be voted on at the February meeting.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program.

Wendell H. Rorie, for his thirteenth paper to the Society, again went above and beyond the call of duty by traveling to the far reaches of the earth to do research for his paper. This time it was to Paris and London where he took a brief look at history and current events and apparently did a lot of other current research for a paper entitled, "Reflections On Revolutions" From an English Pub. There was reference to a few notable revolutions, both historical and current, in various parts of the world but it appeared that most of the research was with reference to the history of and a current revolution in the character of the English pub. It was not fully clear just how much personal participation the author gave to some of his research but he did end his paper with a quote from the grandson of Sigmund Freud: "It is not true that giving up drinking will make your life longer; it merely gives you the feeling that it will never end."

Edwin Morton White presented his paper entitled "The Cost of Crime is High." In this well researched and presented paper the author first covered the history of ways in which many societies have dealt with criminal behaviors. References were made to many forms of punishment ranging from often brutal torture to death. It was pointed out that even the forms of capital punishment have

ranged from instant death to slow, agonizing means of execution. Reference was also made in this review of various ways that societies have also attempted to reform or change the behaviors of criminals. It was then noted that in the 1800's there was a gradual transition from the more corporeal forms of punishment to the concept of imprisonment. The paper then discussed different forms of imprisonment and various ways that prison systems have been run in different societies and at different times. The author then discussed the evolution and present state of our current prison system dilemma which, in part, includes overcrowding and excessive costs. It was pointed out that these two problems continue to escalate and that so far no one seems to have come up with any satisfactory solutions to help solve these problems.

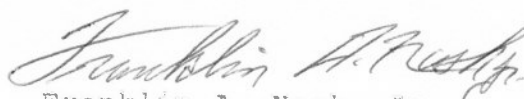
Following a five minute break comments on each of the papers were made by ten members with these comments being followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

The Secretary then announced the program for the February 1 meeting:

Paul K. Turner
Edward H. Higgins, III

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, February 1, 1990

Following the invocation by Thomas W. Westerfield and dinner at the Log House Restaurant the meeting was called to order by President Westerfield at 7:20 p.m. The roll call revealed twenty-eight (28) members present. Requests for excused absences were presented by Bobby H. Freeman, Robert B. Sivley, Richard C. Brasher, George H. Byars, Thomas L. Riley, J. Brooks Major, and Charles L. Tilley, Jr., and all of the requests were approved.

Minutes of the January 4 meeting were read and approved. The Membership Committee then placed before the members the name of one prospect for vote and Ken Powers was approved for membership. A letter will be sent to Mr. Powers informing him of this decision. A report from the By-Laws Committee was given during which it was indicated that their recommendation regarding a possible change in by-laws relative to the position of honorary membership was that no amendment be made. A vote by the members present for this meeting approved that recommendation and there is, therefore, still no official provision for the status of honorary membership.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program:

Paul K. Turner presented a paper entitled "Right To Bear Arms." The author presented statistics and opinions on the often discussed and usually heated debate relative to the question of regulating the possession and use of firearms. Current differences in the positions of the Federal Government and of the Commonwealth of Kentucky relative to such regulations were presented and there were comments and statistics referring to the question of which kinds of weapons need to be regulated. References were made to the more recent emphasis on assault weapons as well as to the more long-term question of handguns. In reviewing the dangers of the handgun an important statistic relative to the private use of handguns pointed out that for every intruder killed trying to enter a home, forty-three (43) family members and acquaintances die. It was suggested that regardless of the regulations involving the ownership of weapons, there certainly should be more regulations making the home gun-owner more responsible for the weapon. It was finally suggested that if any headway is to be made both sides of the issue must consider the problem relative to all levels and areas where the weapons are found, recognizing differences between accidental deaths in a home and deliberate killings by hard-core criminals and drug dealers.

The second paper of the evening was presented by Edward H. Higgins, III and was entitled "The Demise of the Neighborhood Grocery Store." In a nostalgic and philosophical flashback the author reflected on a time when the neighborhood grocery store was more than just a supplier of food and other household items but would also at times provide a place for social contacts such as when high school students would gather at a nearby grocery for lunch as an alternative to the cafeteria. The paper focused on the changes that have evolved in the character and size of the grocery from the small neighborhood store to what the author termed the "modern mega-market." Although the focus of this topic related to a history of Hopkinsville, the paper was reflective not only of changes in local groceries but also of changes in lifestyles throughout our country.

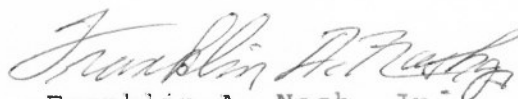
Following a five minute break comments on each of the papers were presented by fourteen (14) of the members present, after which each author presented his rebuttal.

The secretary announced the program for the March 1 meeting:

Martin Standard
Peter C. Macdonald

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, March 1, 1990

Following an invocation by J. Brooks Major and dinner at the Log House Restaurant the meeting was called to order by President Westerfield at 7:37 p.m. The roll call revealed twenty-seven (27) members present. Requests for excused absences were presented by Martin Standard, Peter C. Macdonald, Robert M. Farleigh, III, Edwin Morton White, Paul D. Guffey, and William M. Rowlett, with all of the requests being approved.

Minutes of the February 1 meeting were read and approved. The Secretary then read a letter from C. Kenneth Powers accepting the invitation to membership in the Society. This now brings the membership to thirty-nine (39) members. The Membership Committee, chaired by Mike G. Herndon, then submitted the name of one other person for consideration for membership, with the indication that this person would be voted on at the April meeting. President Westerfield then commissioned the Nominating Committee to have the nominations for next year's officers also ready for vote at the April meeting. The members present were also asked if they wanted the open meeting to be held again at the Country Club this year and the vote was affirmative.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program.

Martin Standard presented his paper entitled, "Preparing Your Family To Survive in the Coming Economy." The author began by presenting some serious thoughts about the possibilities of a serious decline in our economy and other factors that could result in the loss of jobs of those present and of their children. After a few examples of current job losses following companies being bought out or entering bankruptcy the author presented a fascinating history of his own personal experience of working his way up in the job market during the depths of the Great Depression. The theme of the advice from his experience was that no matter how qualified a person may be for a particular job, it is important to be qualified for more than one job and to be able to convince an employer that one can be the most versatile person available and then be willing to couple that with a lot of hard work. The author also encouraged those present to make every effort to pass this advice on to their children and grandchildren.

Peter C. Macdonald presented a paper entitled, "Happy Birthday, Bill of Rights." After a few historical comments on the addition of the Bill of Rights and amendments to the original Constitution, the author discussed ways that these affect the

Criminal Justice System, and how many Americans have difficulty accepting the fact that these rights apply to all citizens. He then discussed at length the evolution of the Bill of Rights from 1791 to the present, focusing primarily on the involvement of the American Civil Liberties Union in the evolution of these rights and the ACLU's efforts to uphold these rights. The author concluded in part by pointing out that the Bill of Rights has been a constantly evolving document and will continue to be so, not as to its language, but as to its interpretation.

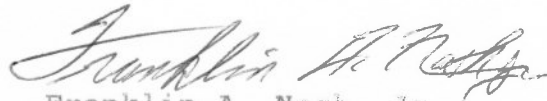
Following a five minute break comments on each of the papers were made by seven of the members with these comments then being followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

The Secretary then announced the program for the April 5 meeting:

Robert M. Fairleigh, III
Robert C. Baker

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, April 5, 1990

Following the invocation given by William A. Bell and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the meeting was called to order by President Westerfield at 7:31 p.m. Requests for excused absences were presented by James G. Adams, Jr., W. Gladstone Major, Kenneth O. Cayce, Jr., William A. Bell, and Hal King, with all of these requests being approved. The roll call revealed twenty-four (24) members present.

Minutes of the March 1 meeting were read and approved. The Membership Committee then placed before those present the name that had been introduced at the March meeting for consideration of membership and vote at this meeting. The vote was then taken and was negative. This leaves the membership total still at thirty-nine (39). The Nominating Committee then recommended the following persons for officers during 1990-91:

Charles L. Tilley, Jr., President
Franklin A. Nash, Jr., Vice-President
David Cavanah, Secretary-Treasurer

These recommendations then received a unanimous affirmative vote.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program:

In an untitled paper, Robert M. Fairleigh, III discussed the present plight and problems associated with the savings and loan industry. A history of the industry was presented, focusing primarily on facts and opinions regarding the federal government's involvement in the industry and how this is costing tax payers hundreds of billions of dollars. A great concern of the author was that no one seems to care what is happening and he presented his opinion of the need to more carefully audit the way that Congress spends our money.

Robert C. Baker presented a paper entitled "The French Spa." Based partly on history and partly on the author's personal experience, the author discussed many factors about mineral waters and their application for medicinal uses and how important they seem to be, especially to the people of France. Properties of the various kinds of mineral waters and their apparent benefits were presented and a number of specific French mineral springs and spas were described with reference to their particular mineral waters and various treatment programs. Some of the spas tend to specialize in the treatment of specific conditions that range all the way from circulatory problems to

nervous disorders to obesity. It was pointed out that the mineral waters are used in various ways such as baths, steam treatments, and for drinking. The author concluded by pointing out that the French government *views* these waters for healing as a type of medical treatment and that it is very popular in France, and that while Americans seem to be skeptical about the whole thing, the author highly recommends it.

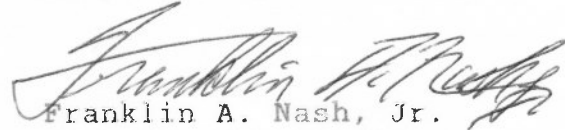
Following a five minute break comments on each of the papers were made by eight of the members present with these comments being followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

The Secretary then announced the program for the May 3rd Open Meeting:

William T. Turner
Hal King

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL OPEN MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, May 3, 1990

The Annual Open Meeting was held at the Hopkinsville Golf & Country Club with thirty-seven (37) members and sixty-eight (68) guests present.

Following an invocation by J. Brooks Major, a buffet dinner was served and was enjoyed along with the good fellowship.

President Westerfield announced that business matters are postponed during the Open Meeting and after making a few introductory comments about the Society and welcoming the guests, the members present were asked to introduce themselves and their guests.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program.

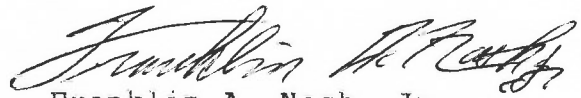
William T. Turner presented a paper entitled "A Window Eye View On A Divided Community." This paper was based on a survey of diaries of two women kept in Hopkinsville during the War Between the States. One of these women was in her late teens and early twenties during that time and lived on North Main Street in Hopkinsville and was sympathetic with the Northern forces. The other was in her forties, lived on South Main Street, and was sympathetic with the Southern forces. Much of the material for this paper was taken directly from these two diaries that were brought to light about three years ago, being well edited and combined with other information by the author in such a way as to take one back in time for a vivid view of Civil War events in Hopkinsville.

Hal King presented a paper entitled "King's Study of the Settlers and the Land of Harlan County, Kentucky." In a well documented paper based on historical records, histories, information from the people of Harlan County, and the author's personal experience, the author presented a fascinating overview of the history of this Eastern Kentucky county beginning with the first white settlers there in the late 1700's. Reference was also made to the Indians of that area prior to the coming of the white settlers and to some of the changes that have taken place in that area throughout the years, focusing on the influence of the Civil War and a number of notable residents of that area throughout the years. A vivid description of the countryside was also given with reference to rivers and the impressive mountain terrain that provides a great deal of natural beauty. Reference was also made to the millions of tons of coal that have been mined in that area and to the present day contrast between modern homes and buildings surrounded by much of the land that still

remains in its wild natural state. The author concluded by pointing out that he himself had lived in the county for only five years but that his wife, who was present for this meeting, is the great-great-great granddaughter of one of the settlers highlighted throughout the paper.

Following the presentation of these two papers comments were made by eleven members and guests with many of them being of such character as to add much more enjoyment to the evening, after which each of the authors gave their rebuttal. President Westfield then announced the officers that had been elected for the 1990-91 year. The meeting was then adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, September 6, 1990

Following the invocation given by Brooks Major and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the meeting was called to order by President Tilley at 7:21 p.m. A request for an excused absence was presented by James G. Adams, Jr. The request was approved. The roll call revealed twenty-nine members present.

Minutes of the April 5th and May 3rd meetings were read and approved. A letter of resignation written in behalf of Dudley Galloway by his wife was read. President Tilley then instructed the members that the society currently has thirty-eight members with two vacancies. Members were instructed to give recommendations for prospective members to the membership committee.

A letter from George M. Draper was then read. Mr. Draper voiced his concern about missing Athenaeum papers and suggested that a search be made for these papers. President Tilley then formed a committee with the goal of finding and microfilming papers. Members of that committee include: President Tilley, David Cavanah, Robert B. Sivley, and George M. Draper.

President Tilley then called the stated program:

In a paper entitled "Man is the Measure," J. Brooks Major sought explanation for why things happen as they do. The author explored such theories as fatalism, "The Great Man" theory, and economic interests. The author then revealed eternal truth: hope persists, power destroys, justice prevails, and the unchanging consistency of basic human nature is the basis for understanding human behavior.

Mike G. Herndon presented a paper entitled "Exercise in Futility." The author examined exercise in America today. In 1979, 30-50 million Americans jogged, 32 million played tennis, and 10 million were racquetball players. We also spent millions of dollars on athletic equipment: almost \$500 million in 1982. The problem we encounter is that all of this exercise may not be helping us. In fact, sources were quoted that seemed to indicate that exercise does not prolong life, does not make us slimmer, and may mask serious health problems. The answer, therefore, is a reasonable approach to exercise, a common sense application of moderation.

Following a five minute break, comments were made by nine members, followed by rebuttals from the authors.

The secretary then announced the program for the October meeting:
George S. Boone
Paul D. Guffey

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cavanah

David Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, October 4, 1990

Following the invocation by William Turner and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the meeting was called to order by President Charles Tilley at 7:20 p.m. Twenty-three members were present.

Five members (Peter McDonald, George Byars, Wynn Radford, Frank Nash and Marvin Denison) were granted excuses for missed meetings.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

A name was placed in nomination by the membership committee. The vote was favorable and the nominee will be voted on in November.

President Tilley reported on the progress of the committee set up to preserve Athenaeum papers. They will meet soon and formulate a plan at that time.

President Tilley then called the stated program:

Using as a backdrop a clock placed in the Todd County Courthouse over 100 years ago, George S. Boone presented a brief history of time entitled "A Search For Time." That clock was made necessary by the advancement of the railroad into Todd County in 1857. Railroads, especially those running east and west, made a standard measure of time much more important. Mr. Boone then explored the measurement of time through the ages, studying Apparent Time (or Sun Time), the earliest mechanical measurement of time, and bureaucratic intervention that signaled governmental interest. After viewing hours, minutes, and seconds, the author directed his study to days, months, and years. Early calendars were based on the moon and the sun and their relation to the earth. Later an Egyptian calendar was based on the rhythm of the Nile. Others were created to comply with religious law or mathematical theory. Our current year was developed by borrowing from each of these theories.

So a one hundred year clock in Elkton brought together ancient Babylonians and moon worshippers with space probes and theoretical physicists. Time really does stand still.

In "Some Thoughts on the Dialectic", Paul D. Guffey reasons that the dialectic is by nature dualistic. As proof, the author quotes William Blake: "Eternity is in love with the productions of time." The dualism is apparent, for how can something with neither beginning nor end have appreciation of or affinity for time? Additionally dualism is seen in man's desire to view the apparitional field but also to exist as a part of that field. His fear is his inability to coexist on both planes simultaneously and always. The author also asks why the concerns of others affect even the most hard-hearted. The

answer, of course, is that man identifies himself with others. The barrier between "I" and "not I" is removed. An attempt is then made to distinguish between the psychological and the metaphysical. This proves to be an impossible task as the psychological and metaphysical realms are one and the same. But what of justice? Can justice exist while dualism prevails? It not only can -- it must.

I am now a dialectician. I have accepted with fervor and zeal.
My philosophy is not what it used to be. Yours has universal appeal.
I placed great stock in my philosophy, although now it seems very lame.
For dogs and cats are but one animal, and dualism is the name of the game.

But Danny, please explain one more question about which I haven't a clue.
If we are both the same person, should I move in with you?
I hope you have a big house 'cause I have a family, too.
And I'm not sure that they will like living with that crazy black-belt guru.
Danny, he seems to be a strange one, that sort you're not likely to find
Except at the top of a mountain or in what's left of your mind.

Following a five minute break, comments were made by seven members, followed by rebuttals from the authors.

The secretary then announced the program for the November meeting:
Gladstone Major
David L. Riley

The meeting was then adjourned by President Tilley.

Respectfully submitted,



David Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, November 1, 1990

After an invocation by Marvin Denison and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the November 1, 1990, meeting of the Athenaeum Society was opened by President Charles Tilley. Nineteen members were present.

Excused absences were requested by James Love, Marvin Denison, and Mike Herndon. Each excuse was granted.

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

A prospective member (Mr. James Killebrew) was voted on. The vote on Mr. Killebrew was favorable.

President Tilley then called for the stated program.

In his paper, "Unconsumed Burning Bush", Gladstone Major points to the central goodness of humankind. This goodness is dependent on man's ability to accumulate knowledge. Complete knowledge is found only in Christianity, but the Arts are another source of knowledge. A stable and secure society is threatened by the economic structure of society. Man's ability to govern himself is also questioned. Society would be better served if man would exchange his character of aggression for great values of myth, laughter, hope, dreams, and love for one another.

David Riley's timely paper, "Horror Come Morning", recounts the series of earthquakes that hit the New Madrid area between December 16, 1811, and February 7, 1812. The accounts of individuals who survived the quakes are presented by the author. The experiences of these survivors clearly illustrates the power and destructive force of these quakes. Though the New Madrid earthquake was the most severe in North America, the sparse population in the area during the early years of the nineteenth century insured that the number of deaths would be relatively low. The increasing density of the population today would insure tremendously high death tolls from a similar quake.

After a short break comments were made by nine members and rebuttals were presented by Mr. Major and Mr. Riley.

The meeting was adjourned by President Tilley.

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Cavanah, Secretary/Treasurer

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Athenaeum Society
Thursday, December 6, 1990

After the invocation by Brooks Major and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the meeting was called to order by President Charles Tilley. The roll was called and twenty-five members were present.

Excused absences were requested by and granted to: Richard C. Brasher, Thomas W. Westerfield, William A. Bell, Edward H. Higgins III, Peter C. Macdonald, Robert B. Sivley, Robert M. Fairleigh III, George H. Byars, and Paul D. Guffey.

A letter from James T. Killebrew was read to the society. In the letter Mr. Killebrew accepted membership in the Athenaeum Society and stated his intention to attend the December meeting. President Tilley then introduced Mr. Killebrew and welcomed him to his first meeting.

President Tilley then called for the stated program.

In his paper "The Erehwon Principle or What Happens When Sin Becomes Sickness and Sickness Becomes Sin," Robert B. Sivley examines our society's changing views of sickness and sin. The title is taken from the 1872 novel Erehwon ("nowhere" spelled backward) by Samuel Butler. In the mythical kingdom of Erehwon, attitudes toward sickness and sin were the reverse of those elsewhere. The physically ill were doomed to be responsible for their problems and were punished. Those who committed crimes were treated with sympathy. Dr. Sivley points to similarities today. We are told that most of our physical problems are our own fault since they result from poor diet, lack of exercise, etc. Since they are our fault, blame must be placed on us and sickness has in fact become sin. Sin started to become sickness when Alcoholics Anonymous decided that many drinkers were addicted to alcohol. This same theory is now applied to gambling, child abuse, stealing, and many other former crimes. This completes the picture for sin has now become sickness.

In "A Look Backward, Democracy in America," William M. Rowlett reports the observations of Charles Alexis Maurice Clavel deTocqueville. DeTocqueville visited the United States in 1831 and 1832 and later wrote his classic study entitled Democracy in America. His observations included not only critical assessments of our government but also our religion, education, society, geography, political parties, patriotism, language and our people. DeTocqueville offers three reasons for the maintenance of democracy in the United States: (1) vast resources, (2) laws, and (3) habits and mores. Dr. Rowlett points out that deTocqueville made some very interesting predictions. He predicted that American Society would eventually go coast to coast. He predicted that the Americans would push the Mexicans out of the Texas territory. He also refers to Russia and America as the two great nations of the world and in 1832 predicted that these countries would one day hold the destinies of the world in their hands.

After a five minute break, comments were made by three members and rebuttals were offered by both authors.

The secretary announced the program for the January meeting:

George W. Engler
Bobby H. Freeman

The meeting was then adjourned by President Tilley.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cavanah

David Cavanah, Secretary/Treasurer